

Heimskringla (Icelandic pronunciation: ['heims khrinla]) is the best known of the Old Norse kings' sagas. It was written in Old Norse in Iceland by the poet and historian Snorri Sturluson (1178/79-1241) ca. 1230. The name Heimskringla was first used in the 17th century, derived from the first two words of one of the manuscripts (kringla heimsins - the circle of the world). Heimskringla is a collection of sagas about the Norwegian kings, beginning with the saga of the legendary Swedish dynasty of the Ynglings, followed by accounts of historical Norwegian rulers from Harald Fairhair of the 9th century up to the death of the pretender Eystein Meyla in 1177. The exact sources of his work are disputed, but included earlier kings' sagas, such as Morkinskinna, Fagrskinna and the twelfth century Norwegian synoptic histories and oral traditions, notably many skaldic poems. Snorri had himself visited Norway and Sweden. For events of the mid-12th century, Snorri explicitly names the now lost work Hryggjarstykki as his source. The composition of the sagas is Snorri's. This solo is Volume 3-5 of The Saga Library by the same translators and is all three volumes of the Heimskringla (which are volumes 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Saga Library. Volume 6 is notes, index, appendices etc, and is not planned to be recorded). (Wikipedia and Ærik Bjørnsson)

Read by Ærik Bjørnsson; Jim Locke . Total running time: 34:23:22

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